

# HOW TO WRITE A WORLD CLASS PAPER

## Dealing with the journal

*Roel Prins*

# Cover letter

- This is your chance to speak to the editor directly
- Keep it brief, but convey the particular importance of your manuscript to the journal
- Suggest potential reviewers

***Convince the editor that he should publish your study***

# Cover letter

## Include

- Editor name – Address to journal editor, not generic
- First sentence – provide title, author list and journal name
- Briefly describe:
  - your research area and history
  - the main findings of your research
  - the significance of your research
- Confirm originality of submission
- Confirm no competing financial interests

# Dealing with the journal

**Your paper is accepted,  
must be revised,  
or is rejected**

# Rejection

**Do not take it personally!**

- Why was the paper rejected?
- Evaluate honestly:
  - is your paper suitable after addition of more data?
  - is another journal more appropriate?
- Resubmit *only* with significant revisions. Address the reasons for rejection, check the new Guide for Authors

**Revise**

**Response to Reviewers**

# Response to Reviewers

**Study the reviewers' comments**  
**Prepare a detailed letter of response**

- Respond to all comments
  - If you disagree, give a polite, scientific rebuttal
- Clearly list your revisions with page and line numbers
- Perform additional calculations or experiments, if required

# Revision

Differentiate responses from reviewers' comments by using a different font style

## Reviewer's Comments:

A key reference is missing. Williams et al., J. Catal. xx (200y) zzz describes the pitfalls of catalyst preparation; it should be included.

## Author's reply:

*We agree and will add this reference.*



# Revision

The reviewer is clearly ignorant of the work of Bonifaci et al. (2008), who showed that the electric field strength is less than ....



Thank you for your comment. However, we feel that the assumption in our model is supported by recent work by Bonifaci et al. (2008), who showed that the electric field strength is less than ....





Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

# HOW TO WRITE A WORLD CLASS PAPER

**Accepted !**

*Roel Prins*

# Planning

- Plan before acting
- Discuss with supervisor
- Write Experimental and Results
- Discuss with supervisor
- Write Discussion and other parts
- Discuss with supervisor
- Finish manuscript
- Obtain permission of all authors



Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

**NOW WRITE A PAPER YOURSELF !**

**Good luck !**

*Roel Prins*



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**Characterization of solid catalysts**  
1. Introduction  
Prof. dr. J.W. (Hans) Niemansverdiel  
TU/e

**How does a catalytic reaction proceed?**  
 $A + B \rightarrow P$   
separation  
reaction  
Answer: via a cycle of elementary reaction steps in which molecules react in a complex formed with sites on the catalyst, which are regenerated at the end of the cycle.

**How often are techniques used**

Technique	Frequency
IR	28.4
Adsorption	27.4
XPS	9.2
TPP	9.2
TEM	8.3
SEM	7.3
EDS	6.3
UV-vis	5.3
MS	4.3
Reaction	3.3
GC	2.3
GC/MS	2.3
Microbalance	1.3
Calorimetry	1.3
200 / 1000	0.3
Reactive Surfaces	0.3
SSR	0.3

Superficial  
Applied Catalysis A & B  
Catalysis Letters  
Journal of Catalysis  
Jan 2002 and Oct 2006  
Total Number of Articles  
#112

**length and time scales in catalytic processes**

microscopic      mesoscopic      macroscopic